

OER Sustainable Scale Up: Faculty Development as Capacity Building Strategy

The presentation introduces a successful OER **professional development workshop** for supporting faculty in adopting or creating OER for their courses. Presenters will introduce a workshop website (itself an OER), share lessons learned from the implementation and how to use it at one's own institution to deliver professional development for faculty and other units that support OER. Additionally, the presenters will showcase two practical instruments to facilitate the evaluation and selection of OER, and course planning and design with OER. This faculty development workshop model introduces a scalable and sustainable strategy for implementing OER on a course, program, institutional, or system-wide level.

Affordability, inclusion, and college completion are three issues at the heart of higher education concerns today (Allen & Seaman, 2016; Annand & Jensen, 2017; Hilton III, 2016). Open Educational Resources (OER) offer the promise of more affordable, more current, and accessible learning as students are equipped with up-to-date, faculty-curated resources, all available to students from the very first day of class (EDUCAUSE, 2011; Ozdemir & Hendricks 2017; Wiley, 2017).

This presentation will discuss a strategy for building capacity for OER via a professional development workshop (itself an OER), and will present two practical and easy to use instruments. One is an evaluation and selection criteria checklist that assists faculty in choosing the most appropriate OER for their courses. Another instrument is a course planning tool that can be used by faculty as part of an instructional design consultation, working independently, or in conjunction with faculty development efforts to guide course planning, course design, and development processes. Both instruments are themselves OER, and attendees can adopt or adapt them for their own needs.

About the Faculty Professional Development Workshop

This unique workshop, itself an Open Educational Resource (OER), offered annually since 2017 to faculty at a large public institution, is for those faculty and staff who want to better understand and promote the most effective and intelligent use of OER at their own institutions or in their own courses. By exploring OER together, and working on a course planning document, faculty rapidly progress toward implementing OER. Participants learn how to identify, find, evaluate, and integrate OER. Participants also take away the workshop content itself for adaptation at their own institution.

Presenters

Dr. Olena Zhadko, Director of Online Education at Lehman College, CUNY

Olena Zhadko has 15 years of experience in the field of educational technology, a PhD in teaching and learning, as well as the drive for advancing teaching and learning with technology. She has worked at three academic centers providing leadership and assistance in articulating and implementing effective teaching practices and infusing best practices into curriculum development, delivery, and assessment through the meaningful use of technology. In her current role, she serves as the Director of Online Education at Lehman College, acting as the College's senior administrator charged with the oversight of all facets of online instruction.

Dr. Susan Ko, Associate Director of Faculty Development and Instructional Technology at Lehman College, CUNY

Susan Ko authored four editions of [Teaching Online: A Practical Guide](#), a leading book in the field of online teaching. She was responsible for the training of faculty and supporting online education at many institutions, including as Director of Faculty Development and Instructional Technology, CUNY School

of Professional Studies, as Executive Director, Center for Teaching and Learning at University of Maryland University College, and served as Clinical Professor in History at Lehman College. She has more than 20 years of online teaching and faculty development experience.

The session presenters, both experienced faculty developers with expertise in online education and open educational resources. The presenters have written a book titled “[*Best Practices in Designing Courses with Educational Resources \(OER\)*](#)” (2020) for Routledge’s [*Best Practices in Online Teaching and Learning*](#). The presenters have created and successfully delivered an [online, instructor-facilitated workshop](#) for faculty, to help faculty design and develop courses with OER. The presenters have worked extensively with faculty from a variety of disciplines in a large public institution and have presented nationally and internationally on their work and scholarship.

Keywords

OER, Online Learning, Professional Development, Scalability, Capacity Building, Accessibility, Practical Instruments and Tools, Course Design

References

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